

SURBITON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Forty-Fourth
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
INCLUDING THE
REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,
1920.

The Urban District Council of Surbiton

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor A. J. LOCK (*Chairman*).

Councillor ALLWORK.	Councillor (Lady) MARTIN.
„ BAILEY.	„ MENCE.
„ DUMPER.	„ RIBBINS.
„ (Miss) M.	„ RYLAND.
EDWARDS.	„ SANGER, C.B.
„ FERGUSON.	„ SAWYER.
„ HAWKEY.	„ TREW.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Staff.

Medical Officer of Health :

OWEN COLEMAN, M.D., D.P.H., Surg. Lieut.-Colonel.

Sanitary Inspector :

W. NESFIELD, A. R. San. Inst.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

R. F. WHEELER, A. R. San. Inst.

Veterinary Surgeon :

ALFRED C. WILD, M.R.C.V.S.

Clerk :

MISS B. HALLETT.

Clerk to the Council :

FREDERICK W. WOOD.

Most of the material for this Report was prepared by the late Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Owen Coleman) before his death, but owing to the illness which preceded his decease, the issue of the Report was unavoidably delayed.



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Surbiton Urban District Council

Forty-Fourth Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

1920.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1920, upon the health and sanitary conditions of the district under your control in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Population Census, 1911	17,717
Population estimated to the middle of 1920 by	
Registrar General	20,791
Population Census, 1921 (Preliminary)	19,536

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

AREA OF DISTRICT.—This is officially given as being 3,046 acres, or as 3,031, exclusive of water. The shape is practically a square with a long protruding tongue stretching between Chessington and Claygate. It includes what is known as Surbiton proper or the original area as defined in

the Surbiton Commissioners Act of 1885. To this has now been added, in 1905, districts that until then formed part of the area administered by the Kingston Rural Sanitary Authority, viz., Tolworth originally part of the Parish of Long Ditton, Hook and Southborough.

BOUNDARIES.—On the North by the Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames, on the North-West by the River Thames, which has a length within the district of 940 yards and includes within our area the Island known as Ravens Eyot, on the West and partly South-West by the territory of the Urban District Authority of Esher and The Dittons, on the East by the Hogg's Mill River, otherwise locally known as the Malden River, and by the Maldens and Coombe Urban District, and from South-East to South-West by the Epsom Rural District.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.—The area of the district is roughly divided into Northern and Southern parts by the London and South-Western Railway which runs in a deep cutting through the entire district from North-East to South-West, and by the rising ground known as Surbiton Hill, towards which on the Northern aspect the ground slopes upward from the level of the Rivers Thames and Hogg's Mill, forming a ridge which extends from Minniedale and the parts known as Clay Hill (now re-christened Villier's Avenue) overlooking Kingston, to just outside the boundary at Cock Crow Hill within the Parish of Long Ditton. The highest part of this ridge within our area is 118·6 feet.

GEOLOGY.—The greater part of the district is of the Tertiary period embracing the Eocene strata of London Clay. In the portion nearer the river there are post-tertiary deposits of gravel and sand, described in the geological survey as “Valley Brick Earth.” This extends from the line of the river up to the railway and then stretches down the Claremont Road to the Kingston boundary. Fossils have been discovered occasionally, but not in any quantity. In the clay there have been found round stones or boulders with iron stained crystals and the deposits of crystalline gypsum.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The district is entirely a residential one, and that of a first-class character; it is situate on the banks of the River Thames, but with a considerable portion of it on hill ground at a height of from 100 to 120 feet above ordnance datum and facing Banstead Downs and the Surrey Hills, whence it derives the pure and invigorating air that in so large a measure accounts for its well known health conditions. A very large proportion of the adult male residents here are engaged in business in London, for access to which the facilities offered by the South-Western Railway are not surpassed in the case of any similar extra metropolitan district. The tramways also provide a good service, more especially for transit to Kingston and the townships on the other side of the river, besides communications with Richmond and Bushey Parks and Hampton Court. There are no factories or works employing many hands, with the exception of the pumping stations of the Metropolitan Water Board (formerly the Lambeth and Chelsea

Waterworks), and of the workers engaged at these the majority are locally resident within the district, the balance living over the border in Long Ditton. There are three large open, pleasantly situate Recreation Grounds, where cricket, hockey, football, lawn tennis, etc., are played, and where flower, horse and other shows from time to time take place, all under the control of a committee of the Council.

Originating solely as a residential suburb of London consequent on the South-Western main line running through it, Surbiton has ever since remained of that character, and under the guardianship of successive enlightened and progressive Commissioners and Councillors has, not unsuccessfully, led the way in the matter of sanitary observances, under which I include drainage, water and milk supplies, the construction and maintenance of its roads and paths, the treatment of its infectious sick, and especially in the housing of the working classes. A lead has always been given in these important matters and we have always endeavoured to keep in the forefront of progress, and moreover, thanks to careful administration, these benefits have been obtained and maintained at a cost that bears a most favourable comparison with any first-class neighbourhood of a similar character.

Situate in a delightful position on the banks of the Thames and in the immediate neighbourhood of the Royal parks and a charming surrounding district, these added sanitary conditions mentioned above, combine to provide Surbiton with attractions so far in excess of most other

places that it has always been and—given a continuance of policy on similar lines—should always be a most popular and populous place. It deserves to be classed as a “health resort” if there is any meaning in such a term, inasmuch as it is a place where good health can be obtained, perpetuated and enjoyed, especially suitable for children and for old people, and in direct contra distinction to that other and baser use of the term which signifies “health resort” to mean a place to which people, out of health, resort in order to be restored to health.

Maintaining its character from its inception on the making of the L. & S.W. Railway, Surbiton is *de facto* a residential neighbourhood with no dominating factories or works. The trade is mainly that which exists for the needs of the residents, a very large proportion of whom travel to and from London. The only new feature of late is the springing up of a few “Motor Garages,” each employing a few hands on the care and repair of cars. After all, these are merely taking the place of Livery Stables and carriage repair shops and are only proportionate to demand. The Electric Light Works and a belated resuscitation of the Tolworth Brickfields represent the leading “Works,” and they are not militant factors from a public health point of view.

SURBITON HOSPITAL. — This Hospital was first opened with six beds for the reception of patients in October, 1870. The site of the present Hospital was purchased in 1881, the building was opened in April, 1883, free of debt and fully equipped for 16 beds. The site is freehold.

In 1907 the building was re-drained and enlarged to provide 21 beds at a cost of £768.

The Hospital was erected and maintained to take in cases of sickness and accidents from the districts of Surbiton, now including Hook, Southborough and Tolworth, together with Long Ditton, Chessington and that isolated portion of Old Malden Parish situate on the Leatherhead Road beyond Chessington known as Malden Rushett.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1916-1920.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Population, estimated to middle of year as supplied by Registrar General—					
For Birth Rate	18,691	19,345	20,782	20,828	} 20,791
For Death Rate	17,179	17,354	18,548	19,994	
Population, Census 1911 (17,717).					
Births	326	244	245	281	399
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17·4	12·6	11·7	13·4	19·1
Deaths, corrected, all causes	205	194	234	216	225
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11·9	11·1	12·6	10·8	10·8
Deaths under one year of age	17	12	15	19	28
Infantile Mortality, Rate per 1,000 Births	52	49	61	67	70
Zymotic Death Rate ...	0·05	0·51	0·37	0·50	0·71
Excess of Registered Births over Deaths	121	50	11	65	174
Area of District in acres, exclusive of water—3,031.					
Rateable Value	£181,203	£180,376	£179,838	£179,501	£179,501
A Rate of 1d. in the £ yields	£620	£617	£615	£614	£665

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES
for 1916 to 1920—inclusive.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 living.		Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths.	
England and Wales, 1916 ...	21·6	14·0	91·0
„ „ 1917 ...	17·8	14·4	97·0
„ „ 1918 ...	17·7	17·6	97·0
„ „ 1919 ...	18·5	13·8	89·0
„ „ 1920 ...	25·4	12·4	80·0
Surbiton , 1916	17·4	11·9	52·0
„ 1917	12·6	11·1	49·0
„ 1918	11·7	12·6	61·0
„ 1919	13·4	10·8	67·0
„ 1920	19·1	10·8	70·0

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES
for 1920.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 living.		Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths.	
England and Wales	25·4	12·4	80·0
96 great towns exceeding 50,000 Census 1911, including London	26·2	12·5	85·0
148 smaller towns, populations from 20,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1911	24·9	11·3	80·0
London	26·5	12·4	75·0
Surbiton	19·1	10·8	70·0

BIRTHS.—The number of Births registered during the last five years is as follows :—

Years.	No.	Birth Rate.	Males.	Females.	Illegitimate.		
					No.	Males.	Females.
1916	326	17·4	172	154	12	9	3
1917	244	12·6	135	109	23	9	14
1918	245	11·7	100	145	18	10	8
1919	281	13·4	145	136	27	12	15
1920	399	19·1	203	196	27	18	9

DEATHS.—The number of Deaths registered during the last five years is as follows :—

Years.	No.	Males.	Females.	Death Rate.	Death-Rate, England & Wales.
1916	205	95	110	11·9	14·0
1917	194	95	99	11·1	14·4
1918	234	100	134	12·6	17·6
1919	216	104	112	10·8	13·8
1920	225	107	118	10·8	12·4

“ZYMOTIC” DEATH RATE—CHIEF EPIDEMIC DISEASES :—The number of Deaths due to the seven principal “Zymotic Diseases” during the undermentioned years is as follows :—

Years.	No.	Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000.
1916	1	0·05
1917	9	0·51
1918	7	0·37
1919	10	0·50
1920	15	0·71

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SURBITON URBAN DISTRICT, 1920,
AS SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

Causes of Death.						Males.	Females.	Total.
All Causes (Civilians only)						107	118	225
3.	Measles	...	...	...	...
4.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
6.	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
9.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	6	5	11
10.	Tuberculosis Meningitis	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	8	19	27
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
15.	Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	11	18	29
16.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	14	12	26
18.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
19.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
20.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	...	...	...	1	—	1
21.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
21a.	Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
22.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
23.	Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
24.	Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
25.	Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	...	...	6	1	7
26.	Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
27.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
28.	Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	38	38	76
Special Causes (included above)—								
	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Total Deaths	...	...	...	...
Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age						19	9	28
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	15	7	22
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Total Births						203	196	399
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	185	187	372
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	18	9	27
Population—Birth Rate						} 20,791		
	„ Death Rate	...	...	...	

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply throughout the district is that furnished by the Metropolitan Water Board, is of excellent character, and the supply to all houses is constant and has been since about 1913.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Thames forms the North-West boundary of the district for about 940 yards. The Hogg's Mill River, known locally as the Malden River, forms for part of its course a boundary on the East between Surbiton and Malden. It receives the effluent from the Sewage Works of Ewell and Malden, but there is no pollution of the stream. No water supply for any purpose is obtained for the district from it.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

SURBITON SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Sewage of the District is treated at the Works in Lower Marsh Lane. A portion of the Sewage, a little over half the daily flow, is delivered by gravitation direct into the tanks and the remainder is pumped. Owing to the increased population the daily average treated now amounts to over a million gallons. The process consists of precipitation in tanks by means of lime, and filtration through two series of percolating filters. It is then discharged through a Humus tank and by an effluent drain to the River Thames. The precipitated sludge is ejected from the tanks by com-

pressed air on to drying beds composed of under-drained clinkers. After air-drying the sludge is readily disposed of to farmers in the district, who cart it away free of cost. In connection with the pumping station there is a House Refuse Destructor from which sufficient heat is obtained, with the addition of a small amount of Coke Breeze in the summer, to produce steam for all the power plant and the pumping of the Sewage at the Works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Every house has a water closet, mostly, if not all, with flushing arrangements. Alterations and cleansings are dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SCAVENGING.

House Refuse Disposal.—Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, is enforced in the District. It empowers the Council to insist upon each house being provided with a portable galvanised iron dust bin, where no suitable ashpit exists, or where they are unsuitably placed or beyond repair. All the houses are now provided with covered ashbins, most of which are moveable.

There are no privies or cesspools within the District other than those at Worcester Park and Tolworth Court Farm, which are not within the sewer area, and these are cleansed by the occupiers.

The work of scavenging and removal of house refuse, formerly carried out by contract, has now been taken over by the Council, three Electric Dust Vehicles being used for this purpose.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

This is fully dealt with in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

The following is a list of the Bye-laws and Regulations in force in the District :—

- (1) Bye-laws with respect to Nuisances.
- (2) Bye-laws as to Slaughter-houses.
- (3) Regulations as to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
- (4) Bye-laws as to New Streets and Buildings.
- (5) Regulations as to Underground Rooms habitually used as Sleeping Places.
- (6) Bye-laws as to Public Conveniences.
- (7) Bye-laws as to Recreation Grounds.
- (8) Bye-laws as to Allotments.
- (9) Bye-laws with respect to the Cemetery.
- (10) Bye-laws as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire in Certain Factories and Workshops.
- (11) Bye-laws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.
- (12) Ditto under Good Rule and Government of the District.
- (13) Ditto as to Registries for Female Domestic Servants.

LOCAL OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following is a list of the Adoptive and Local Acts in force in the District :—

The Surbiton Improvement Act	...	...	...	1855
Infectious Disease Prevention Act	...	...	...	1890
Public Health Acts Amendment Act	...	...	...	1890
Private Street Works Act	...	...	...	1892
Public Health Acts Amendment Act (part of)	...	...	...	1907
Surbiton Urban District Council Act	...	...	...	1910

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—There are six Public Elementary Schools in the District, of which four are Church of England and two Council Schools, classified as follows :—

Surbiton—St. Andrew's Road C.E. (St. Mark's).

3 Departments—Boys—Girls—Infants.

Surbiton Hill—Christ Church—Parochial.

2 Departments—Boys—Girls.

Surbiton Hill—Council.

1 Department—Infants.

Surbiton—Tolworth, St. Matthew's C.E.

1 Department—Girls.

Surbiton—Tolworth—Council.

2 Departments—Boys—Infants.

Surbiton—Hook—St. Paul's C.E.

2 Departments—Mixed—Infants.

These schools are inspected three times a year during the vacations, when they are thoroughly disinfected, and once a year the drains and sanitary appliances are tested and examined.

St. Andrew's Road Schools were closed for Measles from June 21st, 1920, to July 19th, 1920.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—In the following remarks regarding milk it is necessary to remind the Council once more that, speaking roughly, about one half of the milk consumed here comes from the country districts "down the line," and that we as a sanitary authority have therefore little or no control over that portion of the supply.

Within our borders we are vigilant and make use of all the powers that the existing Acts and Orders give us—over the cattle hereabouts through the appointed Veterinary Inspector, and

by the sanitary staff over the storage, handling and delivery of the milk itself. There are 9 cow-keepers, with an average number of 280 cows, 23 purveyors of milk resident within the district, and 18 vendors of milk who reside outside but retail milk within the district.

The dairies and cowsheds are frequently visited with a view to compliance with the regulations as to cleanliness and sanitary conditions.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1919.
—The Surrey County Council notified your Council, in a Memo. dated January 19th, 1921, that in future no milk would be supplied under this Order.

MEAT :—

(i) Frequent visits are made to butchers' shops, slaughter-houses and other places where meat is prepared or exposed for sale.

(ii) There is no public Abattoir. The Sanitary Inspector makes arrangements to be present at the slaughter-houses, either at the time of killing or shortly afterwards.

(iii) It was not necessary to take action under Sec. 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as all the meat found by the Sanitary Inspector to be unfit for human consumption was voluntarily surrendered by the vendors. No unsound meat was found exposed for sale.

(iv) During 1920 the following meat was condemned for tubercùlosis :—

Beef, 6 carcasses	...	...	4,120 lbs.
Beef offal	...	...	286 lbs.
Beef, part carcasses	...	...	1,052 lbs.
Pig, head and offal	...	...	40 lbs.
Total	...	...	5,498 lbs.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

	1914.	January, 1920.	December, 1920.
Registered	3	3	3
Licensed	1	1	1
Total	4	4	4

OTHER FOODS.—See Report of Sanitary Inspector.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, ETC.

RETURN OF SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR
1920.

ARTICLES.	ANALYSED.			ADULTERATED OR DETERIORATED.			PROSECUTIONS.	CONVICTIONS.
	Formal	In-formal	Total.	Formal	In-formal	Total.		
Milk	43	—	43	2	—	2	1	1
Butter	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—
Confectionery and Jam	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Honey	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—
Dripping	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Onion Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Drugs	1	2	3	—	1	1	—	—
Other Articles	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total	47	13	60	3	2	5	1	1

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

BACTERIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The following are the results of the Bacteriological Investigations of the specimens forwarded to the Clinical Research Association, Ltd. :—

Year.	Disease Suspected.	Nature and Specimen.	Result.		TOTAL.
			Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	
1920 {	Diphtheria... ..	Swabs	6	8	14
	Tuberculosis	Sputum	1	1	2
		Total	7	9	16

The following infectious diseases were notifiable under the original Notification Act, 1889 :—

Small-pox	Cholera
Diphtheria	Relapsing Fever
Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas
Enteric Fever	Typhus
Puerperal Fever	Plague
Continued Fever	

By “ Orders ” since :—

Tuberculosis (all forms)	Influenzal Pneumonia
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Pneumonia
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Dysentery
Acute Poliomyelitis	Malaria
Trench Fever	Encephalitis Lethargica

Cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet and Typhoid Fever occurring in this District are received at the Isolation Hospital, Red Lion Road, Tolworth.

Small Pox cases are received at the Combined Small Pox Hospital, Clandon.

SMALL POX.—No case of small pox was notified during the past year.

VACCINATION.—At my request the Vaccination Officer has supplied me with an official statement of the Vaccination Returns for 1919, in this District, as set out in the following Table :—

Total Births Registered	371
Successfully vaccinated	232
Insusceptible	1
Certificates of exemption granted ...	104
Deaths, before vaccination	16
Left the district, not found, and not accounted for	15
Postponements and not yet legally due ...	3
Percentage of successful vaccinations to Births	62.5
Total number of Births registered in the Kingston Union for the years 1918, 1919, and 1920 were	9,731
Total number of Certificates of Exemption granted during this period were	3,239
Exemptions are now about 38 per cent. of the births in the whole Union.	

Small pox is prevalent in many parts of the continent, and with the increase of facilities for travel and with the resumption of trade, we must expect the possibilities for the introduction of infection to continue. But while reaping the benefit from the extensive vaccination of those who were on military service during the war, yet exemption certificates are now again being granted on application as though the Vaccination Act was a dead letter, and the total of unvaccinated children year by year is steadily mounting up. In my Report for 1913 I showed that up to the end of

June of that year 1,314,502 exemptions had been granted throughout the country and that we were approaching, at that time, a total of very nearly 300,000 unvaccinated children being added to the population annually.

The Vaccination Officer states : “ I consider the real objection to vaccination is the ‘ trouble.’ It only requires one case of small pox for 90 per cent. of the unvaccinated to be vaccinated.”

No vaccinations were performed by me as Medical Officer of Health during the year under the Public Health (Small-pox) Prevention Regulations, 1917.

DIPHTHERIA. — There were 39 cases notified during the year with four deaths, which gives a case mortality of 10·2 per cent. All of these cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Anti-toxin serum is supplied by the Council and is available for use in those cases in which the medical man in charge is assured that the family are themselves unable to pay the small expense entailed, and it can be obtained either at the Council’s office during office hours, or at my residence.

SCARLET FEVER.—36 cases of this disease were recorded during the year, with no deaths. 31 of them were under treatment at the Isolation Hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER.—No case was notified during the year.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.—One case was notified, without a death.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—One case of this disease was notified, but was subsequently withdrawn.

PNEUMONIA.—Eight notifications were received of this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS. — Nine pulmonary and three non-pulmonary cases of this disease were notified during the year.

DISINFECTION. — See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

LIST OF CERTIFIED MIDWIVES WHO NOTIFIED THEIR INTENTION TO PRACTISE DURING 1920.

No.	Name.	Address.	Date of Enrolment.	Qualification.
19,828	Deacon, Harriett	84, Red Lion Rd., Tolworth.	27/4/05	In practice July, 1901.
21,236	Feast, Alice Charlotte	7, James Street, Surbiton.	27/4/05	In practice July, 1901.

The Statutory Powers and Duties in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, are vested in the Surrey County Council under an Order of the Local Government Board (now the Ministry of Health). By arrangement, however, the District Council still retains a large measure of control over the work, which duty is performed by the Public Health Committee, who for this purpose have co-opted several ladies, representing the churches and other interests.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Since my last report, a special hut has been erected by the Surrey County Council, in conjunction with your Council, on the ground adjoining the Council House, Ewell Road. This building was opened in October, 1920, and consists of three main rooms, one of which is used as a waiting and social room, one in which the babies are weighed, and a third where the Doctor interviews the mothers requiring advice.

The Centre is open every Thursday at 2.30 p.m. Dr. Agnes Hodge visits, as Medical Officer, on alternate weeks; while Miss Leigh attends as Health Visitor each week. The building is used on the remaining days as a Central Medical and Dental Clinic for the children attending the public elementary schools in this and some of the adjoining areas.

The work of the Centre, besides the registration of names and addresses and the weighing of babies, includes advice to mothers and attention to minor ailments for which medical assistance is rarely, if ever, sought. The work is mainly preventive, and infraction of the work of the medical practitioner is carefully avoided. Voluntary members of the Centre attend and help. The infants are regularly weighed and results noted, and advice is given on the feeding of both infants and mothers. With the opening of larger and more suitable premises, ante-natal help has been taken up and expectant mothers invited for advice and instruction.

The attendances during 1920 were :—

Ante Natal Consultations.		Infants Under One Year.		Children Under Five Years.		Total Attendances.
New Cases.	Total Cases.	New Cases.	Total Cases.	New Cases.	Total Cases.	All Cases.
4	4	198	883	46	395	1,282

In conclusion I desire to thank you, Mr. Chairman, your predecessor and the Members of the Council for the kindness, consideration and forbearance shown me during the past years. I have had many occasions to be most grateful to Mr. Nesfield, the Sanitary Inspector, who was most ready and helpful whenever needed, and also to Mr. Wood, the Clerk, Mr. Mather, and all the officials of the Staff for their most efficient and kind assistance, always most ungrudgingly given.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

OWEN COLEMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1921.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SURBITON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Twenty-fifth Annual Report dealing with the work carried out by the Sanitary staff during the year ending December 31st, 1920.

COMPLAINTS.

One hundred and ninety-eight complaints were received at the office with respect to the following matters, viz. :—

Defective condition of house drainage	...	...	26
Insanitary condition of houses and premises	...	...	45
Insanitary condition of right-of-ways and yards	...	...	3
Nuisance from dampness in house walls or floors	...	...	7
Defective roofs	...	...	11
Offensive smells from various causes	...	...	18
Defective water closets	...	...	6
Houses without a supply of water	...	...	6
Insufficient water supply	...	...	1
Burst water pipes	...	...	4
Defective sink waste pipes, etc.	...	...	3
Water in cellars	...	...	2
Absence of ash receptacles	...	...	9
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	23
Smoke nuisances	...	...	7
Nuisance from animals improperly kept	...	...	4
Accumulation of refuse or manure	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	14
Total			198

Each complaint was promptly investigated, and in those cases where the Council had power to interfere the necessary steps were taken to remove the cause of complaint.

In some instances the complaints were found to be of a trivial character, and in some cases no sanitary defects or nuisance could be discovered against which the complaint could be made.

The complaints with respect to the non-removal of house refuse were acknowledged and referred to the Surveyor, as the removal of house refuse is carried out under the control of his Department.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Inspection of the district has been carried out during the year both systematically and at certain intervals as occasion required in order to comply with General Orders of the Ministry of Health, Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc., and all necessary steps have been taken to secure the abatement of any nuisances which were found to exist.

The work carried out includes house-to-house inspections, special inspections for the investigation of complaints and other reasons; supervision and testing of all drainage; general sanitary works executed in connection with existing buildings; inspections of schools, slaughter-houses, bake-houses, factories, workshops, workplaces, and out-workers' premises, cow-sheds, dairies and milk shops, butchers', fruiterers', and fishmongers' shops; inspections of meat and other foods, and premises where foodstuffs are deposited or prepared for sale.

The following table shows the number and nature of such inspections :—

Number of houses and premises inspected					
	(ordinarily)	...	...	...	245
,,	,,	houses inspected (H.T.P. Act)	...		115
,,	,,	houses and premises re-inspected	...		716
,,	,,	miscellaneous visits	...	...	373
,,	,,	visits <i>re</i> cases of infectious disease	...		147
,,	,,	visits to works in progress	...	...	1,071
,,	,,	visits to bakehouses	...	...	56
,,	,,	visits to slaughter-houses	...	...	50
,,	,,	visits to dairies, cowsheds and milk-shops	...	...	97
,,	,,	visits to workshops	...	...	138
,,	,,	visits to factories	...	...	10
,,	,,	homeworkers' premises	...	...	15
,,	,,	work-places	...	...	4
,,	,,	schools	...	...	19
,,	,,	food inspections	...	...	106
Total					3,162

NOTICES SERVED.

As a result of these inspections 391 written notices were served during the year, of which the following is a summary :—

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	218
Statutory Notices under Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875, to provide a sufficient dust receptacle	...	...	...	...	51
Statutory Notices under Section 41, Public Health Act, 1875, or Section 45, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, to examine and test drains	...	...	...	...	9
Statutory Notices under Section 41, Public Health Act, 1875, to relay drains	...	...	...	...	34
Statutory Notices under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875, to abate nuisances	...	...	...	...	12

Statutory Notices under Section 25, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, to pave yards ...	4
Statutory Notices under Section 36, Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909, of intention to survey and examine dwelling house ...	9
Statutory Notices under Section 28, Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919, to make premises reasonably fit for human habitation ...	53
Statutory Notices under the Bye-laws as to Nuisances ...	1
	<hr/>
Total ...	391
	<hr/>

In the majority of cases the notices were readily complied with, but in one instance it was necessary to take legal proceedings before the Magistrates, to enforce compliance with a notice served under Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1875, requiring the abatement of a nuisance caused by the floors of a dwelling-house being rotten and infected with dry rot, etc.

The Magistrates made an order for the work specified in the notice to be carried out within 28 days and fined the defendant £5, and £15 15s. costs.

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

In consequence of written complaints having been made alleging a nuisance from defective drainage, the Council gave instructions for the ground to be opened and the drains, etc., belonging to 13 houses examined and tested in the manner provided by Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and Section 45 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

Sanitary defects were found to exist in each case, and notices requiring the drains to be re-laid or repaired, as the case required, were served upon the persons responsible.

The drains and internal sanitary fittings belonging to 7 dwelling-houses were entirely re-laid and brought up to date. In each case a plan of the work has been prepared and filed in the office for future reference.

Forty-six house drains were cleared from obstruction or repaired.

Thirty-one brick, iron or other defective gullies were removed, and approved iron or glazed stoneware gullies fixed in lieu thereof.

Fifteen new manholes were built on line of existing drains for inspection and cleansing purposes, and nine defective manholes were altered or repaired.

All drains re-laid are tested with water, soil pipes and ventilating shafts with air when the work is completed.

Water, air or smoke tests were applied to drains and sanitary fittings on 54 occasions.

SOIL AND VENTILATING PIPES.

Six defective soil pipes and five defective ventilating pipes were removed and replaced with strong cast-iron pipes jointed with molten lead.

Four soil pipes and two ventilating pipes were repaired and the joints made air-tight.

WATER CLOSETS.

Eight dilapidated water closet buildings were repaired and put in order.

Thirty-two defective old container, long-hopper or other insanitary water closet pans were abolished and pans of an approved type fixed.

Six water closets were provided with anti-syphonage pipes.

Four defective flush pipes were repaired.

Twenty-five dirty or defective water closet pans were cleansed or repaired.

Twenty-two defective or insufficient flushing cisterns were removed and new ones provided.

Thirty-two defective flushing cisterns were repaired.

SINKS, WASTE PIPES, ETC.

Twenty-two defective sinks or lavatory basins were abolished and new ones fixed.

Twenty-four new trapped waste pipes were provided to bath, sink, lavatory basin, etc.

Twenty-eight sink, bath or lavatory basin waste pipes were trapped or disconnected from drain.

Five sink, bath or lavatory basin waste pipes were repaired.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water of the district is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board. The supply is constant, and many houses now receive their water direct from the main, instead of from a storage cistern.

No complaints were received during the year that the supply was insufficient or unsatisfactory.

Nineteen notifications were received from the Metropolitan Water Board of the withdrawal of the supply from houses owing to the water rate not having been paid or where the supply pipes had been found to be wasting water and the owners had neglected or refused to carry out the necessary repairs, or where the houses were unoccupied.

All such houses were at once visited and the necessary steps taken to prevent any nuisance arising from the withdrawal of the supply.

In only one case was it necessary to serve a notice for the supply to be reinstated, and this was immediately complied with.

Seven water supply pipes were repaired.

Four cold water draw-off taps were disconnected from storage cisterns and connected direct to the main.

Thirteen storage cisterns were abolished and all water fittings connected direct to the main.

DAMPNESS.

Forty-seven defective roofs causing dampness inside dwelling-houses were repaired and made weatherproof.

Fifteen houses were provided with eaves gutters and rainwater pipes to carry away rainwater from the roof where none previously existed.

Twenty-five defective eaves gutters were repaired.

Seventeen defective rainwater pipes were repaired.

Seven new rainwater pipes were provided.

Eight houses have had a damp proof course inserted in the walls, the defective wooden floors taken up and the space underneath covered with a layer of Portland cement concrete six inches thick, the floors reinstated with sound material, and a sufficient number of openings and air-bricks provided in the walls to ventilate the space underneath the floors.

The external walls of six houses were re-pointed, six were rendered with Portland cement, and the walls of eight houses were treated with damp proof solution to remedy the dampness of the internal walls.

Thirty-eight defective window cills were repaired or renewed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

One out-building which obstructed light and air to living rooms was removed.

Fifty-four dilapidated or dangerous house walls were repaired.

Thirty-three defective or dangerous house floors were repaired or renewed.

Thirty-three defective or dangerous ceilings were repaired or renewed.

Thirty-eight defective doors were repaired or renewed.

Five sleeping rooms were provided with permanent means of ventilation.

In two rooms additional windows were fixed to provide sufficient light.

Nine fixed windows were made to open.

Sixty-five defective windows were repaired or renewed, and one hundred and three broken sash-cords were repaired.

Eleven defective ranges or coppers were repaired or renewed.

Two public-house urinals were reconstructed, and one dirty urinal cleansed.

Three hundred and seventy-six dirty, unwholesome or infectious rooms were properly cleansed, etc.

Fourteen offensive accumulations were removed.

Five nuisances arising from animals being improperly kept were abated.

One smoke nuisance was abated.

OVERCROWDING.

During the year four houses were found to be badly overcrowded, so as to constitute a nuisance likely to be dangerous or injurious to health.

In each case the nuisance was abated on notice being served.

DUST RECEPTACLES.

Portable galvanised iron dust bins with tight-fitting covers were provided to 42 houses where no provision was made for the storage of house refuse, or where the existing receptacles were in a dilapidated or insanitary condition.

In three instances dust bins were provided by the Council in default of the owners complying with notices served under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, which empowers the Council to insist upon each house being provided with a sufficient receptacle for the storage of house refuse.

Demand was then made upon the owners for payment of the expense, which in each case was subsequently paid without the Council having to resort to further legal proceedings.

PAVING OF YARDS AND OPEN SPACES IN
CONNECTION WITH DWELLING-HOUSES.

Section 25 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, provides that "if any yard in connection with, and exclusively belonging to, a dwelling-house shall not be so formed, flagged, asphalted or paved, or shall not be provided with such works on, above, or below the surface of the yard, as to allow of the effectual drainage of the subsoil or surface of the yard by safe and suitable means to a proper outfall, the local authority may require the owner to execute all such works that are necessary for the effectual drainage of the subsoil or surface of the yard to a proper outfall."

As the result of notices served under this Section the yards, side passages and forecourt footpaths of 17 dwelling-houses have been paved with concrete or other hard, durable and impervious material.

At 7 houses the yard paving has been repaired, at 1 house the yard paving was extended, and at 5 houses the yards were cleansed and put into a sanitary condition.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &C., ACTS,
1909 & 1919.

The inspection of dwelling-houses under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, has proceeded during the year.

One hundred and fifteen houses were thoroughly examined, and their condition recorded, together with any action taken either by the Sanitary Inspector independently, or by instruction of the Public Health Committee, also the result of such action.

Sanitary defects of a more or less serious nature were found to exist at 109 of the houses inspected. 6 were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Of the 109 houses where defects were found to exist, 75 have been put into a satisfactory state of repair.

At 8 houses the Council carried out the necessary works in default of compliance with notices served under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

At 4 the necessary works were in progress at the end of the year.

The remaining 22 were only inspected during the last month of the year, and the time specified in the notices for the work to be done had not expired.

One underground room which was not on an average at least seven feet in height from floor to ceiling and did not comply with the Council's Regulations for securing proper ventilation, lighting, etc., was found to be habitually used as a

sleeping place, and the Council made an Order under Sub-section (7) of Section 17 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, prohibiting the use of the said room for human habitation until in their judgment it was rendered fit for that purpose.

The tenant subsequently vacated the room and it was put into a proper state of repair, and is now used as a living room only.

The owner of the dwelling-houses Nos. 5 & 6, St. Leonard's Road, appealed to the Ministry of Health against the refusal of the Council to determine the Closing Orders made on the 19th day of June, 1916.

The appeal was heard by H. Stewart, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., the Inspector appointed to hold the inquiry.

The inquiry was held on Thursday and Friday, the 8th and 9th days of April, 1920.

The Inspector heard the evidence and carefully inspected the premises, and subsequently the Ministry of Health dismissed the appeal with costs.

The owner also applied to the High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division, "for an Order restraining the Council, their servants, agents and workmen from proceeding to enforce or carry out the Closing Orders made in respect of 5 & 6, St.

Leonard's Road, Surbiton, and for an Order to determine or set aside such Closing Orders on the ground that the premises had been rendered fit for human habitation and use, and that the Council had been requested by or on behalf of the owner to determine the Closing Orders and had neglected to hear evidence in support thereof."

Protracted litigation took place in the High Court of Justice, but the action was eventually dismissed with costs.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACT, 1920.

Section 2 (2) of this Act provides that " at any time or times not being less than three months after the date of any increase of rent permitted under this Act the tenant or Sanitary Authority may apply to the County Court for an order suspending such increase on the grounds that the house is not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation or is otherwise not in a reasonable state of repair. The Court, on being satisfied, by the production of a certificate from the Sanitary Authority, that any such ground as aforesaid is established, and on being further satisfied that the condition of the house is not due to the tenant's neglect or default or breach of express agreement, shall order that the increase be suspended until the Court is satisfied, on the report of the Sanitary Authority or otherwise, that the necessary repairs (other than the repairs, if any, for which the tenant is liable) have been executed, and on making of such Order the increase shall cease having effect until the Court is so satisfied."

Eleven applications for certificates were received from occupiers of premises, and in each instance a certificate was granted that the house was not in a reasonable state of repair; at the same time a notification was sent to the owner specifying the work required to be done, with the result that in every instance the work was carried out.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The total number of workshops now on the Register, including bakehouses, is 153.

The businesses carried on at the respective premises are as follows :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	13
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	24
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	13
Laundries	...	...	...	...	20
Tailors	...	...	...	...	10
Milliners	...	...	...	...	7
Other Trades	...	...	...	...	66
Total ...					153

Visits from time to time have been paid, and as a result the following nuisances have been dealt with :—

Defective drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. pans removed and new ones fixed					2
Dirty W.C. pans cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
Defective flushing cisterns repaired or renewed					6
Dirty W.C.'s cleansed and lime-washed	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty workshop cleansed and lime-washed	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...					17

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 13 bakehouses in the district, one of which is situate underground.

They have been visited at least twice during the year.

All the bakehouses in the district were cleansed or lime-washed twice during the year in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are only four slaughter-houses in the district, three of which are registered, and one is subject to an annual licence.

They have all been regularly inspected and generally found to be well kept.

FOOD INSPECTION.

In addition to the visits paid to the slaughter-houses, frequent visits have been made to the shops of butchers, fishmongers, fruiterers, and other places where food is prepared or exposed for sale, and the following food-stuffs were surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human food :—

Six carcasses of beef	...	...	4120 lbs.	Generalised Tuberculosis.
Beef Offal	...	...	286 „	Tuberculosis.
Parts of Carcasses of Beef	...	...	1052 „	Tuberculosis.
Head and Offal of a Pig	...	...	40 „	Tuberculosis.
Parts of Carcasses	Trimming	s, etc.,		
of Beef	...	...	95 lbs.	Unsound.
Mutton and Lamb	...	...	701 „	Unsound.
Bacon	...	...	46 „	Unsound.
Butter	...	...	33 „	Unsound.
Haddocks	...	...	126 „	Unsound.
Codlings	...	...	681 „	Unsound.
Mixed Fish	...	...	98 „	Unsound.
Total 3 tons 4 cwts. 110 lbs.				

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

During the year one person has been registered as a Purveyor of Milk, and one business, that of a Cowkeeper and Purveyor of Milk, has changed hands.

There are now 41 persons registered under the Act, as follows :—

Cowkeepers and purveyors of milk	7
Cowkeepers, dairymen and purveyors of milk ...	2
Dairymen and purveyors of milk	6
Purveyors of milk who have business premises in the district	8
Purveyors of milk who reside outside the district ...	18

All the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were visited twice during the year. Inspections were also made at irregular periods to ascertain if they were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition and in accordance with the Regulations.

The average number of cows kept by the persons registered is 280, all of which are periodically examined by the Council's Veterinary Inspector in order to ensure that they are free from any disease likely to affect the milk.

DISINFECTION.

During the year 88 houses, in which 92 cases of infectious disease have occurred, were disinfected by spraying the walls and ceilings with Formaldehyde, and by fumigating with formaldehyde gas upon the removal, recovery, or death of the patient.

Of these, 38 were in consequence of scarlet fever, 31 of diphtheria, 11 of consumption, 3 of cancer, 3 of scabies, 1 of tubercular meningitis, and 1 of puerperal fever.

Disinfection was also carried out in one case after a non-infectious illness, upon the occupier of the house in which the case occurred agreeing to pay the expense, and in another instance a quantity of bedding was removed from a house in the Esher district for steam disinfection at the request of Esher and the Dittons Urban District Council, upon their agreeing to pay the expense.

The Public Elementary Schools have, as usual, all been disinfected as arranged with the Managers and the Surrey County Education Committee, the walls, floors, and ceilings being sprayed with formaldehyde during the Easter, Summer and Christmas vacations.

All bedding and other articles likely to retain infection were removed to the Tolworth Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.

Disinfectants were gratuitously supplied where required, and, where necessary, the owners or occupiers of the premises in which the cases occurred were required to strip and cleanse the interior walls of the infected rooms and distemper the ceilings.

Enquiries were also made after each case of infectious disease to ascertain, if possible, the source of infection, and an examination made of the drains, sanitary fittings and water supply.

The following goods were disinfected at the Tolworth Isolation Hospital under the supervision of the hospital staff :—

Beds	...	...	...	...	1
Mattresses		...	...	...	154
Palliasses	...	...	...	...	26
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	75
Pillows	...	...	...	...	186
Sheets	...	...	...	...	24
Blankets	...	...	...	...	265
Blinds	...	...	...	...	25
Counterpanes		...	...	...	28
Carpets	...	...	...	...	62
Rugs	...	...	...	...	43
Cushions	...	...	...	...	67
Toilet Covers		...	...	...	6
Towels	...	...	...	...	12
Wearing Apparel			...	...	416
Curtains	...	...	...	...	36
Quilts	...	...	...	...	32
Pillow Cases		...	...	...	1
Mattress Covers	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	124
Total					1585

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. NESFIELD, A.R.San.I.,

Sanitary Inspector.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors
of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	10	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	138	6	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part III. of this Report)	4	1	—
Total	152	7	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	4	3	—	—
Want of Ventilation ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors...	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	18	5	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective.	15	14	—	—
Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary re- quirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100).	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluded offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	—	—	—	—
Total	38	23	—	—

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the Year.	Number.
Bakehouses	13
Laundries	20
Tailors	10
Bootmakers	13
Dressmakers	24
Milliners	7
Sundry Other Trades	66
Total number of Workshops on Register	153

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133, 1901).	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 5, 1901).	2
Notified by H.M. Inspector	
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.	2
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101), in use at the end of the year... ..	1
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1920,
IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SURBITON.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.										Total Cases Notified in Each Locality.				Total cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages---Years.							65 and upwards	Sur- biton	Tol- worth	Hook & South- boro'			
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65								
Small Pox															
Cholera															
Diphtheria (including Membranous. Croup)	39		5	28	3	2			1		9	26	4		39
Erysipelas	1					1					1				1
Scarlet Fever	36		6	16	8	6					21	13	2		31
Typhus Fever															
Enteric Fever															
Puerperal Fever	3					3					2	1			
Plague															
Acute Poliomyelitis	1				1						1				
Pneumonia	8			2	2	4					3	3	2		
Tuberculosis--Pulmury.	9				3	5					4	3	2		
„ Non-Pulmury.	3				1	2					2	1			
TOTALS	100		11	46	18	23	1		1		43	47	10		71

Isolation Hospital, Red Lion Road, Tolworth, Surbiton. Sanatoria—none.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The following tables and appendix are given at the request of the Ministry of Health, and are a separate report apart from any information stated in the general text.

STATISTICS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	20,791
(2) General Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	10·8
(3) Death Rate from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0·67
(4) Infantile Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	70
(5) Number of dwelling houses of all classes	...	...	...	...	...	4,308
(6) Number of working-class dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	3,393
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	...	...	...	...	...	54

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

1.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	328
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	115
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	222

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	144
---	-----	-----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	...	24
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) By owners	...	15
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	8
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	30
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By owners	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	3

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to improvement Schemes under (a), Part I, or (b), Part II, of the Act of 1890.

(1) Name of area	} Nil
(2) Acreage	
(3) Number of working-class houses in area	
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919 2

5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, } Sanitary Inspector
the duties of each officer... .. } and Assistant.

Designated Officer under the Housing (Inspection }
of District) Regulations, 1910 } Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

1 General housing conditions in the district :—

- (1) General housing conditions ... Satisfactory.
- (2)—(a) Extent of shortage or excess of houses, and ... Shortage.
- (b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage ; 54 houses were erected during 1920, arrangements were in progress to erect other 50 during 1921.
- 9 houses were converted into 28 flats.

2 Overcrowding :—

- (1) Extent Normal.
- (2) Causes Insufficient houses.
- (3) Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding ; and... .. Houses being erected by Council and houses converted into flats.
- (4) Principal reasons of overcrowding during the year, and action taken As above, houses were allotted to people from overcrowded areas.

3 Fitness of houses :—

- (1)—(a) General standard of housing in the district ; and .. Fair.
- (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses ; Ordinary dilapidations.
- (c) How far defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners Speaking generally, owners are willing to remedy defects when requested to do so by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (2) General action taken as regards unfit houses under—
 - (a) The Public Health Acts ; Notices served. } For action taken
 - (b) The Housing Acts ... Notices served. } see Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (3) Difficulties in remedying unfitness, special measures taken or suggested, including for example, any special action taken to secure improved management of property by owners ; the gradual carrying out of repairs according to agreed arrangements ; or any special method of dealing with unfit back to back houses, or other types of insanitary property Repairs are done more slowly than normally, owing to excessive cost and lack of suitable labour as a result of the war. In cases where repairs are considered necessary, the owners are invited to discuss the matter with the Sanitary Inspector on the premises. In this way much trouble and delay is avoided.
- (4) Conditions, so far as they effect housing, as regards water supply, closet accomodation, and refuse disposal, together with measures taken during the year in these matters ... Satisfactory.

4 Unhealthy areas :—

Information as to complaints
received or representations
and action taken in regard
to unhealthy areas, under
Part I. or Part II. of the
Housing Act of 1890 ... Nil.

5 Bye-laws relating to houses, to
houses let in lodgings, and to
tents, vans, sheds, etc. :—

(1) As to working of existing bye-
laws ... Nil.

(2) As to need for new bye-laws or
revision of existing bye-laws Nil.

6 General and miscellaneous... Nil.

